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Remarks:

The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Advisory Action mailed January 25, 2005 and to the Final Office Action mailed October 20, 2004. A Petition and Fee for a one month extension of time is enclosed herewith to extend the due date for this response to February 25, 2005.

Claims 88, 89, 91, 93-99 and 101-104, 106-115, 117-120, 122-126, 128 and 130-138 remain pending in the application. Claims 88, 89, 91, 101, 103, 104, 106-114, 122-126, 128 and 134 have been amended herein, while claims 87, 100, 105, 116, 121, 127 and 129 have been canceled without prejudice. The amendments are fully supported in the specification and drawings as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claims 93-99, 117-120 and 130-133 are allowed.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 91 and 100 were objected to as being of improper dependent form. Claim 91 has been amended herein to be dependent on claim 93, while claim 100 has been canceled herein without prejudice, so that the objections are obviated.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 87, 89, 101-104, 116 and 129 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakabayashi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,018,425, in view of Schofield et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,796,094, and further in view of Chen, U.S. Patent No. 5,044,706. Claims 105-112, 121-128, 134 and 135 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakabayashi et al., in view of Schofield et al. Claims 113, 114, 136 and 137 were

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rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakabayashi et al., in view of Schofield et al., and further in view of Foo, U.S. Patent No. 5,880,879. Claims 115 and 138 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakabayashi et al., in view of Schofield et al., in view of Foo, and further in view of Chen. Claim 88 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakabayashi et al., in view of Schofield et al., in view of Chen, and further in view of Foo.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under §103(a). However, in order to expedite prosecution and allowance of the claims, and without acquiescing in the rejection in any way, Applicant has canceled the rejected independent claims 87, 105 and 121 and has amended dependent claims 88, 89, 91, 101, 103, 104, 106-114, 122-126, 128 and 134 to be dependent on the allowed independent claims 93, 117 and 130, such that claims 88, 89, 91, 93-99 and 101-104, 106-115, 117-120, 122-126, 128 and 130-138 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant thus respectfully submits that all of the claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly and respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

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